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*The Idaho Commission for Libraries assists libraries to build the capacity to better serve their clientele.*

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**NEWS RELEASE**

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**ICfL's Tomlinson elected to serve on board of Association for Rural & Small Libraries**

BOISE, ID—Kevin Tomlinson, Idaho Commission for Libraries (ICfL) area field consultant for southwest/south central Idaho, was recently elected to the Board of Directors of the Association for Rural & Small Libraries (ARSL). Tomlinson began his three-year term in September at the organization's annual conference in Tacoma, Washington. ARSL is a national organization of over 800 members that provides resources to help small and rural libraries deliver excellent service to their communities.

"ARSL provides valuable support to Idaho libraries, many of which are small and rural—some with only one or two staff members. The continuing education opportunities that ARSL provides to libraries are affordable, practical, and can be put into immediate use by libraries with limited resources and staffing," said Tomlinson. "A smaller, leaner organization can be more agile, enabling it to respond more rapidly and thoughtfully to the continually changing needs of smaller libraries. I look forward to working with the ARSL board, which serves as a source of current information about trends, issues, and strategies for rural and small libraries and partners with other organizations to meet the needs of rural and small communities."

Tomlinson brings a wide range of experience from libraries large and small, urban and rural. His past public library positions included department head, branch head, and deputy director—giving him varied perspectives on library matters and extensive experience with library boards. Tomlinson earned his Master of Library Science (MLS) degree from Indiana University and has been with the Idaho Commission for Libraries for nearly four years.

More information about ARSL can be found at [www.arsl.info](http://www.arsl.info).

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The Idaho Commission for Libraries (ICfL) assists libraries to build the capacity to better serve their clientele through support of statewide databases and online resources, continuing education, consulting, programming, early literacy skills, and building library community. To learn more about ICfL, visit <http://libraries.idaho.gov/>.